Agape Church Inc, dba VTN, is a small in-state TV Network that delivers religious programming to most of the state of Arkansas and portions of the surrounding states as licensee of TV stations KVTN-DT, KVTH-DT and KVTJ-DT.

Unlike major network owned stations, VTN has to raise funds to purchase high cost equipment while at the same time keep the stations and its equipment in good operating condition.

VTN supports some of the proposed portions of the NPRM. However, it does not support or is seriously concerned with portions of this NPRM. This is due to the way VTN has to send its programming to its transmitter sites while staying flexible for its future growth and the changing broadcast regulations.

Our comments reflecting these points are as follows:

VTN Supports

1. **Opening up Part 101** 6Ghz (6875-7125 MHz) frequencies that have been used for what is known as Common Carrier use for TV Broadcasters (Section IV-B, paragraphs 21-27). The proposal to use these frequencies as the "Last Link" of an STL could be a great opportunity for VTN.
   - This could be very beneficial to VTN by allowing us to purchase lower cost equipment that is designed for these frequencies. This will enable VTN to achieve the goal of converting its multi-hop STL's over to all digital links sooner than with equipment that is solely licensed for Part 74 BAS. The potential cost savings is around $200,000 or more if VTN could use the part 101 frequencies.
   - VTN's main concern with this proposal: Will these frequencies be truly available for VTN to use in the rural areas of AR where our present transmitting towers are located? One of the commission's reasons for this NPRM is that these frequencies are either almost full or in some cases there are no more microwave paths available, especially in the rural regions of the US.

2. **The proposal to allow adaptive modulation**. (Section IV-C, paragraphs 28-40). Adaptive Modulation can help some of the VTN STL's maintain connection during bad weather conditions. Unlike other commercial industries. If given the choice, VTN will choose reliability of connection (or availability of 99.999%) from spectrum efficiency as part of doing business. <u>However, VTN does not support Section 101.141 as a viable rule for TV Broadcasters</u> due to the very different business model and needs we have compared to the general communications industry – see our detailed comments below in section 2 concerning what VTN does not support.
   - Thus the FCC should allow broadcasters to continue using Adaptive Modulation for its microwave paths now and for future new paths on any frequency.

VTN Does Not Support or is Seriously Concerned With

1. **Opening up Part 74 BAS group of Frequencies in the 6.8ghz to 7.125ghz** to any and all industries (Section IV-A, paragraphs 11-20).
   - There is a high volume of requests for frequencies for MW paths in the Part 101 Common Carrier industry for broadband data, with over 40,000 applications for microwave paths over the past year alone. VTN's main concern due to this high request volume for the 6.8ghz to 7.125ghz Part 74 BAS group is that there will not be any frequencies available for our TV stations in the future. This would limit VTN's options for any future STL's if VTN purchases additional stations within the state of AR. This includes TSL's, and the ability to relocate any of its studio or transmitter facilities. This would force VTN to have to pay 3rd party vendors to send its programming to the transmitter tower facilities and thus drive up its operational

costs. This would also increase the risk of the programming links becoming more unstable or unreliable than an STL should be. This could be a major detrimental factor during emergencies caused by nature or man, thus limiting the mandate given to VTN for public service.

- TV broadcasters like VTN should remain protected with at least regional corridors that enable them to be able to set up a TSL and or relocate any of its facilities in the protected corridor.
- Opening up this band to everybody will increase the noise floor of our microwave STL's which can adversely affect our programming. This higher noise floor level will exacerbate fading problems of the links due to weather. It is difficult to predict the exact extent of this malady since it depends on many factors like the number and the distance of encroaching services to our STL paths.

2. **A uniform set of Technical specs that everyone must meet .** Referring to the reference that TV broadcasters must comply with the technical regulations of part 101.141(a)(3). (Paragraph 20):
   - These Loading specs are written and designed for the Tele-Communications industry and should have no bearing on TV broadcasters. We are not in the same type of business and only use our spectrum for closed loop internal applications and needs.
   - This regulation puts unnecessary and undue burden on us, and all TV broadcasters, so we should be exempt from it. Even the exception clause for moving video creates an unnecessary and undue heavy burden on us.

3. **The use of Auxiliary Point to Multi-point antennas**. The idea of pointing antennas, even with the same frequency, at different directions will most likely cause troubles to existing users of the frequency range in the area. In addition to that, these auxiliary antennas will not be constrained by the maximum beam width requirements making them virtual broadcasters. The likelihood that actual implementation of these auxiliary stations will breed numerous problems is intrinsic to this idea.